

The



Bulletin

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KJA

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Happy Pessah

KJA



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Happy Pessah  
to all  
the Karaite Jesus of America

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## **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Dear Members:

Happy Passover from myself and on behalf of the board members.

Our thanks to Mrs. Rachel Lisha for sponsoring the distribution of the Haggadah this year.

By the time you get this letter we would have had our annual Purim party with all of its religious and fun activities.

This past summer KJA sponsored four camps, and in this issue you will see some of the pictures. The counselors and the kids had a lot of fun, myself included. Our life was enriched in this past year's camp by rabbi Hayim Halevi sharing his knowledge with us.

We have been asked by the city of San Francisco to bring our synagogue building up to code. Mr Elie Nounou is in charge of this project and we thank him for his effort.

During the board meeting for the month of February, there will be new officers elected. The result of this election will be published in the next bulletin.

Since this letter is my last letter as current president, I would like to thank everyone who supported me during the past years. I am still devoted in supporting my community and ask everyone to contribute what he can to help build the future of our youngsters.

**Joseph Moussa**

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The following article was published in the Jerusalem Post for the week ending December 18, 1993.

Karaite ask High Court to keep rabbinic court from interfering

## **HAIM SHAPIRO**

The Karaite community last week petitioned the High Court of Justice to prevent a rabbinical court from interfering in a Karaite divorce case. The community, which numbers 25,000, accepts the Tora but not the Oral Law.

Although its leaders have no legal standing, they have a religious court in Ramla which has traditionally dealt with matters of marriage and divorce with the community.

In a recent case, however, a Karaite husband rejected the authority of this court and went to the District Rabbinic Court in Petah Tikva which assumed authority in the matter. The Rabbinic High Court of appeals upheld the action of the District Rabbinic Court.

The wife and the World Association petitioned the High Court, with the backing of the Reform Movement's Religious Action Center (RAC) and the Association for Civil Rights in Israel.

According to the Jerusalem attorney who is representing the Karaites on behalf of the RAC, the Karaites are arguing that despite the absence of a law defining their position, the rabbinic courts have no authority over them, since they define the Tora as including the Oral Law which the Karaites reject. In any case, she added, the rabbinic courts do not even recognize the right of Karaites to marry, since they are presumed to be mamzerim (the offspring of illicit sexual relations according to Jewish law) and in some cases even non-Jews.

She said she would also argue that legislators did not have the Karaites in mind when they passed the law establishing rabbinic courts.

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## **BEYOND FAITH**

In spite of what some people may think, Science agrees and confirms the Holy Script about the story of creation. Most of the great scientists and philosophers have deeper and more sound belief in God and the Holy Book because their studies and researches revealed to them more amazing facts that convinced them about the greatness of God and the creation process of the Universe to the finest details.

Albert Einstein the great scientist and the originator of the theory of Relativity, once said " The Universe is so perfect it can only be created by God".

Dr. Alexis Carrel a great surgeon and pioneer of open heart surgeries in the early fifties in New York, once wrote an article called " Seven Reasons for a Scientist to Believe in God". I will try to summarize some of the points he mentioned from my memory.

-The earth rotates around the sun in an elliptical orbit at a distance averages about 93 million miles, with a speed close to 1111.5 miles per hour to make a complete revolution in one year.

The intensity of the heat emitted from the sun, combined by the distance of the earth maintained by its orbit, provides the earth with the ideal heat range that is necessary to keep life existing on the earth.

-The axis around which the earth spins is inclined 23 degrees to the plane of the orbit, and maintains its orientation no matter the position of the earth with respect to the sun is. And the earth spins to make one revolution per day, that is a surface speed about 1100 miles per hour at the equator.

The spinning of the earth creates the day and the night, and that keeps the temperature well distributed all around the globe, and the variations in the heat to a minimum.

The inclination of the axis of the earth together with the revolution of the earth around the sun creates the four seasons. Thus the heat of the sun is very well distributed to cover the maximum area of the earth's surface in the best possible uniformity and allows life to exist on almost every square mile of surface.

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The planet earth is enveloped with a layer of air about eleven miles thick. This air consists mainly of Nitrogen and Oxygen with a ratio close to 79 to 21 percent, with the presence of small amounts of other gasses. The air surrounding the surface of the earth is essential for our existence in so many ways. It protect us from some of the harmful rays that are emitted to the earth with the light from the sun . It contains the oxygen the vital element for life. It contains the nitrogen that slows down the reactions of the oxygen within the safe levels. The air presence combined by the rotation of the earth , and the heat received from the sun, create the winds and makes the patterns of heat transfer and renewing life conditions that we just take for granted.

The water covers three quarters of the surface of the earth it makes all oceans and seas. This water is loaded with minerals and salts. The oceans are also the habitat of a very versified living creatures that vary from the micro-organisms to the big whales.

The water evaporates at all temperatures. And the vapors form the clouds which are carried by the wind to fall as rain of fresh water in far away areas desperate for water. And the rain also creates the rivers and allows life to exist on land as well as sea.

The water as a material has a special property, that is, it expands when cooled below 39 degrees F., and thus when it freezes as ice at 32 degree F., its volume becomes bigger than that of the water and it floats. This phenomena is important for the living mammals that live under the seas in the Arctic zones, they can live in a relatively warm water under the isolating layer of ice in the very cold and freezing winters.

Trees breathe at night, but at day time they absorb the Carbon Dioxide accumulated by the breathing of all living creatures, and release the Oxygen in the air thus keeping the right ratio of Oxygen and Nitrogen and preserve the life existence on the earth.

Most of living animals, birds, fish, and even plants, all breed in their exact time, and mostly in their designated areas.

The trees plume always in the same time of the year , and yield their fruits as

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expected in the right time. The birds travel to settle in certain areas to build their nests in the right time , they always seek their designated habitat. The Elks and deer, emigrate south in winter and north in summer to be in the right place in the right time, to give birth in the best conditions for their fawns to live and be protected by nature, and find the plants ready for them to feed. The fish, like Salmon roams in the big ocean, and when the time comes for spawning, the salmon goes exactly to its river swims against strong currents, struggles against all kinds of obstacles to reach the spawning area. In the right time, the female lays the eggs, then the male cover the eggs with sperm, to fertilize the eggs , then they both die, and never make it back to the ocean. The newly hatched salmon swims back to the ocean and repeats the same cycle again.

These facts could easily be seen by any observer, they don't need any deep analysis to be known. But they clearly show that the Earth was created by powerful yet very loving God. And not just a result of a mathematical probability or statistical equation. The factors here and the odds are so numerous that scientifically the existence of the earth had to be only by greater constructive power.

Dr. Alexis Carrel had faith, his faith grew deeper by his reasoning way of thinking, and his scientific studies which revealed to him more facts, and gave him wisdom about the creation of the Earth.

This article shows us two very great and important points, in spite of that it is concerned only about the Earth we live in, not about the whole Universe.

The first point is that the creation of the earth is made by a loving God, The Lord loves his creation and wants it to last and live forever.

The second point is that, for the earth and the life on it to last there must be rules and laws to govern everything that exists. Some refer to them as Laws of Nature, but they are God's Laws. Some of which were discovered by man.

In the Holy Script the very first verse in the Book of Genesis:



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IN THE BEGINNING God created the Heaven and the Earth. And the Earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said. Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

In this verse we see the sentence. And God said. Let there be light. And not God created light. And the difference is that whatever God says is a Law. And that was the first law on the first day of creation. This first law abides everything that is created. And everything that is created must obey the law of God.

So the law was here from the beginning , it is here with us in the present time, and it will be here forever. It is made out of deep wisdom and utmost love. It is a just law. It is constructive. It is complete, and it is true.

We the Children of Israel were the lucky people. We were chosen to receive the Law through Moses, and were assigned to follow and obey its commands, in word and in spirit, and to protect it and teach it to our children and to the children of our children through the ages.

We were ordered to keep the law in our hearts and between our eyes and to obey the law and abide by it at all times. God gave us the law because he loved us and the law is our protection. We shall in return always obey the law with all our heart and spirit, also because we love and chose God, and because we know that the law is our shield from all evil.

Now we know how lucky we are , how great is the law, we have love in our hearts, and understanding in our minds, we can see the truth. I think that is Beyond Faith.



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## 1993 KJA camp

### 7 to 11 camp



From top left: Rabbi Hayim Halevi, Mira Pessah, Diane Vaede, Ben Marzouk,  
David Pessah, Rahel Farag, Albert Massuda, Esther Ovadia, Mrs.  
Hayim Halevi, Elie Moussa

Fourth row: Debbie Ovadia, Joshua Pessah, Aaron Ovadia

Third row: Albert Khedr, Avi Moussa, Ellana Moussa, Naomi Vaede,  
Berry Ovadia

Second row: Gabriel Pessah, Joel Massuda, Shawn Rasson, Debbie Ovadia,  
David Ovadia, Jeremy Ovadia

Front row: Amy Rasson, Sheila Pessah, Rachel Moussa, Nathan Ovadia,  
Michelle Mangoubi, Michael Pessah, Jean Massuda

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## 12 - 15 camp



From top left: Ofira Farag, Isabel Khedr, Jacob Pessah, Mike Saddik, Shawn Lichaa, Joe Moussa, Victor Khedr, Michael Kheder, Feryal Ovadia, Fred Lichaa

Middle row: Mike Ovadia, Miranda Lishaa, Lilly Lichaa, Debbie Mangoubi, Chantal Marsaa, Amy Pessah

Front row: Gabrielle El Gamil, Sylvia Menashe, Dena Lishaa, Oreett Moussa

Missing from the picture: Nora Massuda, Nora Hartman, Josh Mangoubi, Ben Ovadia, Alan Ovadia

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## 16 - 20 camp



Top left: Mike Abel, Sheila El Gamil, Joey Rasson, Desiree Marzwell,  
Lorna Lishaa, Joseph Allen, Elianne Mangoubi, Danny Dabbah,  
Victor Masliah, Olivia Rasson, David Pessah, Nancy Lishaa,  
David Pessah

Front row: Elie Moussa, Joe Rasson, Lillian Pessah, Albert Saleh

Missing from the picture: Mary Mourad



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## 21 - up camp



From top left: Alfred Barouk, Janet Mourad, Zaki Elkodsi, Danny Vardi,  
Elie Vardi, Sam Saddik, David Ovadia, Sallie Marzouk,  
Joe Habib, Gina Marzouk, Bob Allen

Third row: Marlene Messafi, Glen Chamuel, Lisa Lichaa

Second row: Maurice Masliah, Benjamin Mourad, Audria Gazzar,  
Joyce Messafi

Front row: Abraham Ovadia, Kamy Moran, Jackie Levy, Debbie Levy,  
Jeremy Lichaa, Azie Habid

Missing from the picture: David Leesha, Amir Levy, Abraham Menashe,  
Liza Ovadia, Jack Ovadia, Eric Scimmas

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## BIRTHS



- **Ian David Pessah** born to Roger & Lori Pessah of Hillsborough, Ca. Brit Milah was held in October 1993.
- **Aaron Abbi Ovadia** born to Albert & Doris of San Jose, Ca. Brit Milah was held in November 1993.
- **Andrew David Rasson** born to Joe & Denise Rasson of Danville, Ca. Brit Milah was held in January, 1994.

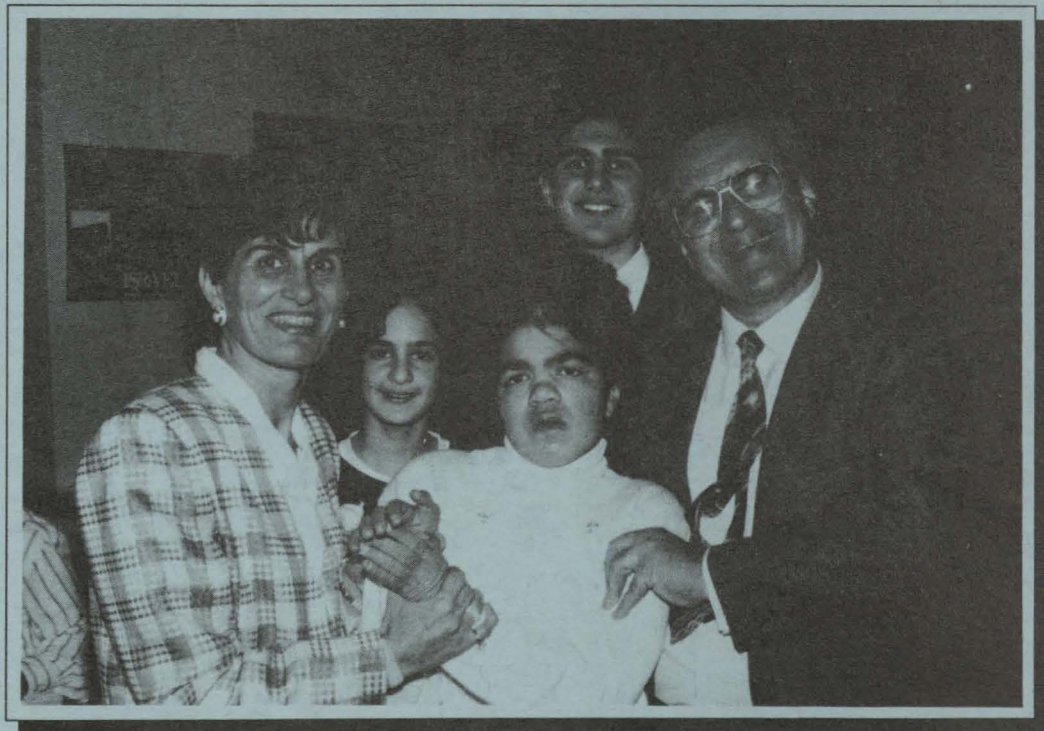
## ZEKHER

We remember the recent passing of  
Sabet Mangoubi,  
Tom Selim and  
Rahmin El Gazzar.



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*For ever as now  
shall be our love  
to our daughter Desiree*



*We would like to thank all of you for your contribution,  
your help and most of all, your love and prayers for the  
disabled children.*

*Fred, Jacqueline, Shawn, Desiree & Billy Lichaa*



